

RESOLUTION OF THE BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
RE: TENTATIVE REDEVELOPER DESIGNATION OF THE
BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY AS CO-REDEVELOPER OF
DISPOSITION PARCEL 6 IN THE FENWAY URBAN RENEWAL AREA
PROJECT NO. MASS. R-115

WHEREAS, the Boston Redevelopment Authority (hereinafter referred to as the "Authority"), has entered into a contract for loan and capital grant with the Federal Government under Title I of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, which contract provides for financial assistance in the hereinafter identified Project; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Renewal Plan for the Fenway Urban Renewal Area, Project No. Mass. R-115, (hereinafter referred to as the "Project Area"), has been duly reviewed and approved in full compliance with local, State and Federal law; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is cognizant of the conditions that are imposed in the undertaking and carrying out of urban renewal projects with Federal financial assistance under said Title I, including those prohibiting discrimination because of race, color, sex, religion or national origin; and

WHEREAS, the Boston Shakespeare Company has expressed an interest in and has submitted a satisfactory proposal which requires the selection of a co-redeveloper for the development of Disposition Parcel 6 in the Fenway Urban Renewal Area; and

WHEREAS, the Authority is cognizant of Chapter 30, Sections 61 through 62H of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, with respect to minimizing and preventing damage to the environment:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

1. That the Boston Shakespeare Company be and hereby is tentatively designated as Co-Redeveloper of Disposition Parcel 6 in the Fenway Urban Renewal Area subject to:

- (a) Publication of all public disclosure and issuance of all approvals required by the Massachusetts General Laws and Title I of the Housing Acts of 1949, as amended;
- (b) Submission within one hundred and eighty (180) days in a form satisfactory to the Authority of:
 - (i) Evidence of the availability of necessary equity funds, as needed;
 - (ii) Evidence of firm financial commitments from banks or other lending institutions;

(iii) Final Working Drawings and Specifications; and

(iv) Proposed development and rental/sales schedule.

2. That it is hereby found and determined that the proposed development will not result in significant damage to or impairment of the environment and further, that all practicable feasible means and measures have been taken and are being utilized to avoid or minimize damage to the environment.

3. That the Co-Redeveloper is authorized to proceed with execution of a Land Disposition Agreement (LDA) in the Authority's usual form.

4. That the co-redeveloper be, and hereby is, authorized to petition the Board of Appeals for any zoning changes that may be necessary to complete the proposed development.

5. That the Director be, and hereby is, authorized to execute a license with the co-redeveloper, subject to the Authority's usual terms and conditions, so that the Co-Redeveloper may conduct such test borings and soils test as may be required.

6. That the Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to publish notice of the proposed disposal transaction in accordance with Section 105(E) of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, including information with respect to the "Redeveloper's Statement for Public Disclosure" (Federal Form H-6004).

The Boston Shakespeare Company (BSC), founded 14 years ago, has been critically acclaimed and is considered a valuable addition to Boston's cultural life. The Artistic Director of the theater, Ms. Tina Packer, has been with the company for three years. When Ms. Packer took the position of Artistic Director, the BSC was approximately \$100,000 in debt. By purging with Shakespeare and Company of Boston, Massachusetts, Ms. Packer now has the company operating in the black.

Until July 18, 1987 the theater facility was situated in a building at 53-55 St. Nicholas Street at the northeast intersection of St. Nicholas and Carleton Streets, on a rectangular shaped lot of approximately 9,000 square feet (see attached location map). The building contained two theaters, one of which was a 100-seat theater, the only theater of its size in Boston. The other theater was a 25-seat experimental theater located on the basement level. The theater also hosts other performance groups including New Voices, Dance Ensemble, and the Women in Theater Festival.

MEMORANDUM

AUGUST 13, 1987

TO: BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND
STEPHEN COYLE, DIRECTOR

FROM: WILLIAM D. WHITNEY, ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
FOR URBAN DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT
VICTOR KAREN, SENIOR ARCHITECT

RE: TENTATIVE REDEVELOPER DESIGNATION OF THE BOSTON
SHAKESPEARE COMPANY AS CO-REDEVELOPER OF DISPOSITION
PARCEL 6 IN THE FENWAY URBAN RENEWAL AREA, MASS R-115
AND AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR CO-REDEVELOPER
INTEREST FOR PARCEL 6

EXECUTIVE
SUMMARY:

THIS MEMORANDUM REQUESTS TENTATIVE DESIGNATION OF THE BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY (BSC) AS CO-REDEVELOPER OF PARCEL 6 IN THE FENWAY URBAN RENEWAL AREA AND SEEKS AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR PROPOSALS TO SEEK A CO-REDEVELOPER FOR THIS PARCEL. THE PROPOSED PROGRAM AS DESCRIBED IN THE FIRST STAGE GUIDELINES AND CONDITIONS INCLUDES THEATER, RESIDENTIAL, AND OFFICE SPACE. BECAUSE THE BSC IS BEING FORCED TO RELOCATE, IT IS NECESSARY TO FIND THE THEATER COMPANY A NEW HOME IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THE BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY REMAINS A VIABLE COMPONENT OF THE BOSTON ARTS COMMUNITY. PARCEL 6 IS AN ACCEPTABLE LOCATION FOR THE NEW HOME OF THE BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY AND FOR ADDITIONAL HOUSING DESIRED BY THE ST. BOTOLPH COMMUNITY.

The Boston Shakespeare Company (BSC), founded 14 years ago, has been critically acclaimed and is considered a valuable addition to Boston's cultural life. The Artistic Director of the theater, Ms. Tina Packer, has been with the company for three years. When Ms. Packer took the position of Artistic Director, the BSC was approximately \$100,000 in debt. By merging with Shakespeare and Company of Lenox, Massachusetts, Ms. Packer now has the company operating in the black.

Until July 30, 1987 the theater facility was situated in a building at 52-56 St. Botolph Street at the northeast intersection of St. Botolph and Garrison Streets, on a rectangular shaped lot of approximately 9,000 square feet (see attached location map). The building contained two theaters, one of which was a 400-seat theater, the only theater of its size in Boston. The other theater was a 75-seat experimental theater located on the basement level. The theater also hosts other performance groups including New Voices, Dance Umbrella, and the Women in Theater Festival.

SA2/V

August 13, 1987

On June 30, 1987, the Boston Shakespeare Company's lease was to expire. The owners of the building, the Boston Musicians Union, did not renew the BSC lease but granted an extension of the lease to July 30, 1987. The Musicians Union wishes to sell the building and feels that having the BSC as a tenant will impede the sale.

BSC is in need of a new permanent home. Such a new location should allow for office space and two theaters approximately the same size as their current theaters (400 seats and 75 seats). The theaters should also be large enough to house other performance groups such as Dance Umbrella, New Voices, and the Women in Theater Festival.

The BSC has submitted a preliminary needs assessment program requiring 25,000 square feet of theatre space, including a 450 seat theater, a flexible seating Black Box theater (up to 200 seats), rehearsal rooms, executive offices, a box office, and a meeting room for the community's use.

A proposed solution to the BSC's needs is to relocate to a new building on Parcel 6 in the Fenway Urban Renewal Area. Parcel 6 is located at the northeast corner of St. Botolph Street and Massachusetts Avenue (see attached location map). The site contains approximately 23,400 square feet and is adjacent to the new MBTA Orange Line Station at Massachusetts Avenue in the Southwest Corridor. Because of the site's adjacency to the St. Botolph neighborhood, it is also important to incorporate a housing reuse as a part of the redevelopment concept for Parcel 6.

This proposal has received the support of many of the City's Arts groups as well as the endorsement of the St. Botolph Street Neighborhood Association.

It is requested to tentatively designate the Boston Shakespeare Company as co-redeveloper of Parcel 6 in order to allow the theater to continue as a legitimate entity.

To assure that a development program to accommodate BSC's needs can move ahead in an expeditious manner, it is requested that the Authority seek co-developer interest and advertise for proposals on Parcel 6 that incorporate requirements both for the Boston Shakespeare Company (theater and office space) and for market-rate, for sale, residential uses as desired by the St. Botolph Community.

August 13, 1987

In order to assure that a fair process is followed on selection of an appropriate co-redeveloper and to facilitate community participation, a nine member advisory review panel will be formed to review the submissions. The selection of the panel members will be subject to Board approval.

Tentative designation of the BSC and a co-redeveloper as redevelopers of Parcel 6 will insure that the Boston Shakespeare Company remains in the City of Boston. This tentative designation will also provide numerous public benefits to the St. Botolph community including the following:

- o The building at 52-56 St. Botolph Street will likely be reused for housing, which will eliminate a non-residential use and its attendant problems in the heart of the St. Botolph neighborhood.
- o The new theater location, adjacent to the MBTA station on a major thoroughfare and bus route, is much more conducive to a cultural use and public access.
- o Surplus off-street parking may be created on Parcel 6 which would also be available to neighborhood residents.

It is, therefore, recommended that the Boston Shakespeare Company be tentatively designated as a co-redeveloper of Parcel 6 in the Fenway Urban Renewal Area and that the Director be authorized to advertise for developer proposals in order to seek a co-redeveloper for the joint venture.

Appropriate votes follow:

VOTED: That the Authority votes to accept the resolution attached hereto providing for Tentative Redeveloper Designation of Boston Shakespeare Company as co-redeveloper for Disposition Parcel 6 in the Fenway Urban Renewal Area Project No. Mass. R-115; and

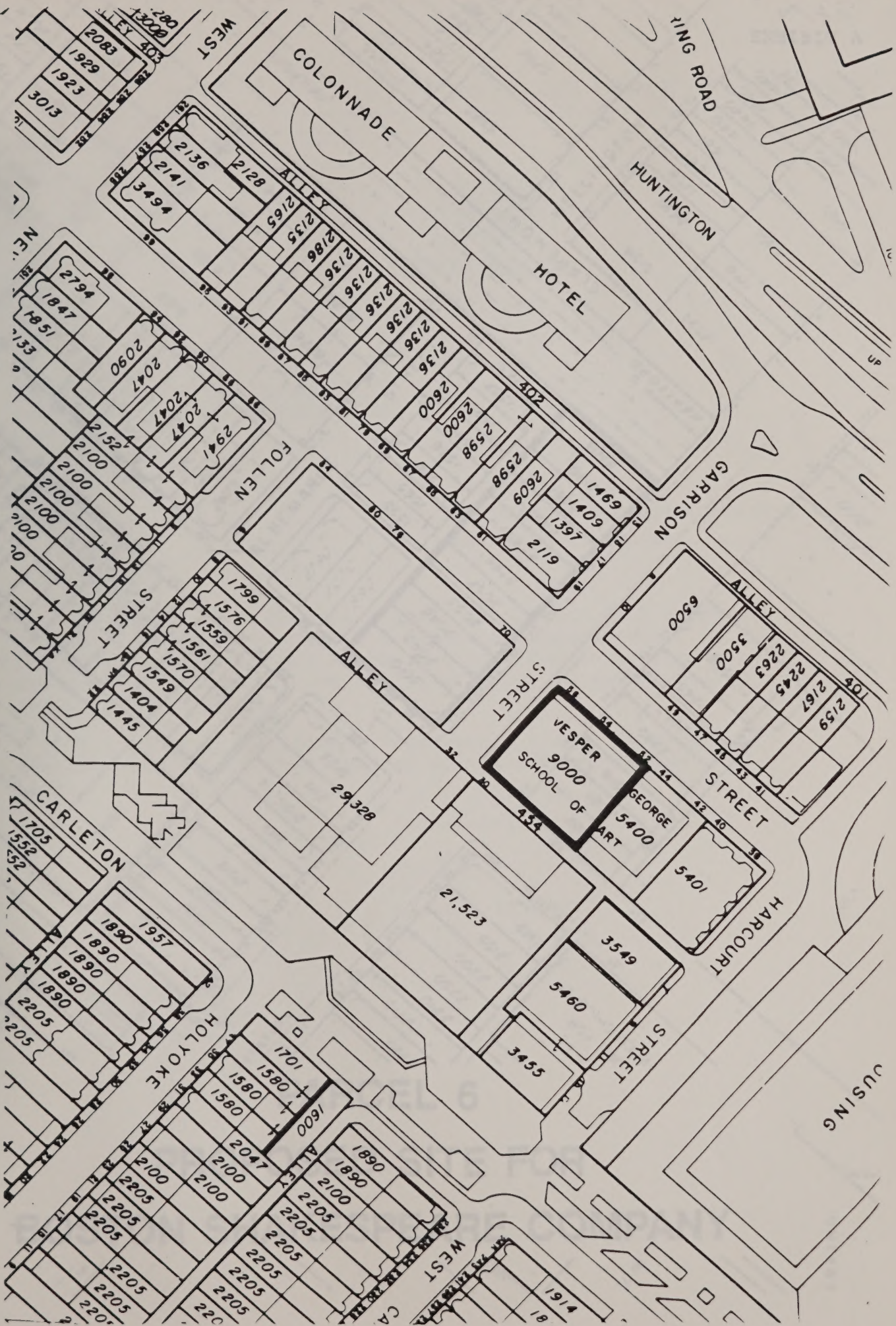
August 13, 1987

VOTED: That the Director be, and hereby is, authorized to advertise for co-redeveloper interest for Parcel 6 in the Fenway Urban Renewal Area, as provided for in the First Stage Guidelines and Conditions

VOTED: That the Director be and hereby is authorized to form a nine member advisory review panel, ~~Panel members will be subject to Board approval.~~
SUBJECT TO THE DIRECTOR SUBMITTING A
LIST OF THE NAMES OF THE ADVISORY
PANEL TO THE BOARD FOR APPROVAL
AT THE NEXT MEETING.

Attachment

CURRENT LOCATION OF BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY





PARCEL 6
PROPOSED SITE FOR
BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

52 St. Botolph Street Boston, Ma. 02116
617-267-5630

Federal Express

June 26, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle, Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston City Hall
One City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02201

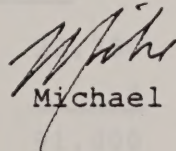
Re: Boston Shakespeare Company
Parcel 6

Dear Steve:

Enclosed you will find a draft memorandum with respect to the development of Parcel 6 by Boston Shakespeare. It obviously needs some polishing, but provides an outline of the Company's program. We need your input on additional, required information.

I will be in California next week. I look forward to meeting with you on July 8th and to the BRA meeting on July 16th.

Sincerely,



Michael Belknap

MB/wm

Enc.

cc: Tina Packer

Ted Chandler

Draft 6/25/87

Memorandum to: Boston Development Authority
Stephen Coyle, Director
cc: Julie Solberg
Ted Chandler

From: Boston Shakespeare Company
Tina Packer, President and Artistic Director
Michael Belknap, Chairman
Dated: July _____, 1987
Re: Boston Shakespeare Company

In furtherance of our discussions with respect to the development of Parcel 6 by Boston Shakespeare, we submit this summary memorandum:

- I. Proposed Project: Theater Facilities in Mixed-Use Development
- II. Developer: Boston Shakespeare Company, a not-for-profit Massachusetts corporation. After tentative developer designation is received, a co-developer will be selected through a competition.
- III. Location: Parcel 6
Southeast corner of Massachusetts
Avenue and St. Botolph Street
(see attached location map-Exhibit A)
- IV. Proposed Structure (approximate):

Site Square Footage:	22,750
F.A.R.	<u>4</u>
Total Square Footage	91,000
- V. Proposed Uses within Structure (approximate/tentative):

Theater Facilities	25,000
Apartments (for sale)	60,000
Retail (Massachusetts Ave.)	6,000
Parking (non-F.A.R)	29,000

VI. Theater Facilities (approximate):

<u>Use</u>	<u>Detail</u>	<u>Square Feet</u>
Shakespeare Theater	450 seats	8,000
Studio (Black Box)	Flexible (up to 200 seats)	3,000
Rehearsal Rooms	Exhibit B	3,000
Executive Offices	Exhibit C	6,000
Support/Box Offices	Exhibit D	3,000
Common Rooms/Meeting	Community	<u>2,000</u>
		25,000

GENERAL NOTES:

Theater entrance should be at the corner of St. Botolph and Massachusetts Avenue to enhance visibility, dramatic impact, and connection to institutional facilities to the north. The adjoining retail space should be a restaurant, the kitchen of which would be used for the theater concession stand.

Offices should be wired for central computer, multi-station system.

Phone system should have WATS line to Lenox and New York City.

Computer room (9' x 12') at steady temperature.

VII. Artistic Program (See Exhibit E):Mainstage:

8 months: Three Shakespeare Elizabethan Plays, eight times a week. Additional performing arts: presentations by the other theater and dance companies.
Plus high school Shakespeare festival.

Also non-Shakespearean Christmas extravaganza.

Studio:

12 months: Variety of performances -

Contemporary plays: social-political, verbally articulate works

Dance: Dance Umbrella

Co-production: New Voices
Women in Theatre Festival

Experimental Theater: To be developed

Training & Workshops: Expansion of existing Shakespeare &
Company programs

VIII. Public Benefits

Jobs: Construction Period: _____

Permanent:

Executive	<u>30</u>
Actors	<u>150-200</u>
Production	<u>40</u>

Minority-hiring: Shakespeare & Company and Boston Shakespeare have gained national recognition for "color-blind" casting. Ford Foundation has funded minority scholarships and internships at Shakespeare & Company.

Real Estate taxes: From the apartments and retail space,
\$ _____ of real estate taxes will be received by Boston.

Tourism: The creation of a theater for Shakespeare will in itself be a tourist attraction. Moreover, 96,000 people will annually

attend performances:	Mainstage	70,000
	Studio	26,000

Education: The facility will serve as the base for Shakespeare-in-the-Schools (Eastern Massachusetts) which will reach 50,000 students in grades 3 to 12.

Neighborhood Development: The mixed-use development provides the capstone for the St. Botolph community. Moreover, moving the theater eliminates a non-residential use from the heart of the neighborhood. The Citizen Committee will gain access to meeting rooms and storage for fair materials.

Cultural Preservation: The construction of this facility will ensure that Boston Shakespeare remains in the City. The loss of this nationally acclaimed institution would diminish the quality of life for all Bostonians.

PARCEL 6

PROPOSED SITE FOR

BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY



PARCEL 6

PROPOSED SITE FOR

BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

REHEARSAL & DESIGN NEEDS

Rehearsals can usually take place in theatres if the set(s) are not too cumbersome. However when sets are being constructed in space, lights are going up, cleaners are cleaning etc. theatres are NOT rehearsable in! Therefore, its quite a good idea to keep theatres for adhoc rehearsal space (or for auditions - which take usually two-three weeks for each show) and rehearsals take place in rehearsal rooms.

Two large rehearsal rooms, preferably duplicating the two stage spaces, plus ONE large general rehearsal room (for schools team, dance rehearsals [i.e. dance in Shakespeare plays], fight rehearsal would be the optimum. In addition to have TWO small rooms for voice classes, individual work or dropping in (with pianos in them) would be extremely convenient.

DEPARTMENT 4: PRODUCTION MANAGER

Production Manager

Stage Manager for Main Stage

Stage Manager for Secondary Stage

Two Assistant Stage Managers

Stage Manager for Schools Team

Carrying Director

DEPARTMENT 5: TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Electrician

Master Carpenter

DEPARTMENT 6: GENERAL MANAGER/OFFICE MANAGER

Bookkeeper

DEPARTMENT 7: DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS TEAM

Education Director

Administrator of Schools Team

DEPARTMENT 8: LITERARY MANAGER (also Artistic Director of New

Voices)

IN ADDITION: Receptionist/General Secretary

Info Desk (for whoever is visiting from London)
Conference Room

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Those positions written in capitals are positions we currently have; those in regular type are those we anticipate adding as company goes into full production.

DEPARTMENT 1: ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
ASSISTANT TO ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT 2: DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT
Associate Director of Development
Associate Director of Development
Secretary to Development Department

DEPARTMENT 3: MARKETING DIRECTOR
PRESS REPRESENTATIVE
Associate Marketing Director
Secretary to Marketing Department

DEPARTMENT 4: Production Manager
Company Manager
STAGE MANAGER FOR MAINSTAGE
STAGE MANAGER FOR SECONDSTAGE
TWO ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS
STAGE MANAGER FOR SCHOOLS TEAM
Casting Director

DEPARTMENT 5: TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
ELECTRICIAN
Master Carpenter

DEPARTMENT 6: GENERAL MANAGER/OFFICE MANAGER
Bookkeeper

DEPARTMENT 7: DIRECTOR OF SCHOOLS TEAM
EDUCATION DIRECTOR
ADMINISTRATOR OF SCHOOLS TEAM

DEPARTMENT 8: LITERARY MANAGER (also Artistic Director of New
Voices)

IN ADDITION: Receptionist/General Secretary
Lenox Desk (for whoever is visiting from Lenox)
Conference Room

SUPPORT STAFF

1. BOX OFFICE MANAGER
BOX OFFICE ASSISTANT IN CHARGE OF GROUP SALES
BOX OFFICE ASSISTANT
Box Office Assistant
(Box Office staff would come under Marketing Department)
2. HOUSE MANAGER FOR MAINSTAGE
HOUSE MANAGER FOR SECONDSTAGE
Both House Managers are responsible for up to six (6)
volunteer ushers each performant.
3. Overall Technical/Maintenance Person in Charge of Heating,
Air-Conditioning, Windows, Boiler, etc. etc.
THREE CLEANERS WORKING TWO HOURS PER DAY - FOR THEATRES AND
OFFICES.

I think it is probably not possible to have a full TECH SHOP & COSTUME BUILDING SHOP on site. Therefore we should use outside shops (ART, Huntingdon, Strand). This may cause problems.

However, within the building we will need a COSTUME MAINTENANCE SHOP, which would contain washers, dryers, sewing machine, iron & board, basin and small stove, costume racks, full length mirror.

The TECHNICAL SHOP should be large enough to carry all the tools needed to put in and out shows. This should include small table saw, soldering machinery. It doesn't have to be a huge place, but it does have to be well-equipped.

STORAGE is a constant problem - and I think there is going to be no room for storage in the theatre. Some space on the parking level may be used for this purpose, at least temporarily. Costumes should either go to Lenox or to Boston University (in exchange for free borrowing from their costume shop - an arrangement we already have with them). SCENERY should be recycled ASAP, or sent to Lenox, or or or - maybe there is a dingy room somewhere remote - used for nothing else, that can be temporary shelter so we don't have to throw everything away.

The Designers of shows should have some place to park their belongings when they are working on a show - this should either be in the maintenance shops or the general office area.

TINA PACKER ARTISTIC CONCERNS

1. We should have at least three months of playing time in the big house to perform three Shakespeare plays, eight times per week.

A Shakespeare play usually takes six weeks in two major and one minor rehearsal rooms to rehearse.

2. We should have at least two months of playing time in the small house to put on our "on all sides of the Atlantic" series - currently the Irish Season - in which we present the contemporary social-political verbally articulate works from other English speaking countries. In the current Irish Season we have three fully mounted, four workshop productions.

A fully mounted production takes three weeks to rehearse; a workshop or reading one week.

3. We should have at least two weeks to do our festival of high school productions in the main house.

The schools team needs at least five weeks (in one major, one minor rehearsal room) to rehearse before they go out on the road.

4. I then have a real desire to do other things - a) Christmas extravaganza by B.H. Barry; b) some really good farces; c) development of new works. However these may have to wait.
5. I am very concerned that NEW VOICES should retain its home at Boston Shakespeare Company. Currently it is CO-PRODUCING the Irish Season with us; putting on a late night cabaret GRAMM RUDMAN (because it has no budget). Annually NEW VOICES mounts two or three series of new play readings (four plays in each series) which go up on Monday evenings. (The Mass. Council voted New Voices its special award last year as company having the most effect on Boston Theatre!)

This relationship between Boston Shakespeare Company and New Voices works very well, because it allows Stanley Richardson and myself to pursue our common interest in the certain kinds of new plays - and then we can present them under either New Voices non-Equity contract, or BSC's Equity contract - whichever is appropriate. It would not work for one organization to do it by itself because we couldn't have the contract flexibility - or the mutual artistic stimulus.

6. I am concerned that the WOMEN IN THEATRE FESTIVAL should be allowed to retain their connection with BSC. It is true that this year (because of handicapped access) they have moved to Suffolk and Northeastern - but it doesn't serve them or us. We (and I include myself, Stanley Richardson and Sophie Parker) have a shared vision about women's role in theatre and it will be artistically to the benefit of the whole of Boston that we should be allowed to pursue it. The festival (if it can remain artistically strong) will be famous in a few years and that might be the time to move it elsewhere (i.e. it will no longer need we three to be in incestuous proximity). The festival needs the WHOLE SPACE (two theatres, three rehearsal rooms) for ONE WEEK (Possibly expanding to two) each year. For one month before the festival we would make the conference room available to them.

7. It seems important to me that the BSC building should be first and foremost a place for Boston artists, and only secondly as a booking house for outside performance groups.

I had originally thought that it might be a good idea to offer STAGE SOURCE a home in the building because they are the service organization for people working in the theatre. They are a non-profit agency for actors, stage managers, all technical staff, designers (and perhaps even directors). They service all the theatres in the Boston area. So anyone who is out-of-work registers with Stage Source and they attempt to put them in work. I am not wedded to the idea of Stage Source being there, but I think it is a proposition well worth considering. Stage Source was started by Jack Welsh, one of the most respected theatre people in town, and the Director of Bakers Plays (Boston's branch of Samuel French).

8. The theatres need to be equipped in such a way that they are extremely flexible and can be used for many purposes, often concurrently. (For instance, "Nunsence" is running in the mainstage house, but by building a thrust which can go up and down quickly, and creating an extra circuit of lights, we are going to be able to do performances there on Sunday and Monday evenings.) We really should plan on doing AS MANY performances as we possibly can. This puts pressure on the tech crews and the cleaning crews - but it is possible if the will to do it is there, and it is well organized.

9. There has to be a simple eating/drinking place in the building. Currently everyone hangs around in the offices (actors who are auditioning, the schools team, the graphic artists - a never ending stream of visitors or employees waiting for a meeting to begin, or killing an hour before rehearsals start) and it drives us crazy. There are no artist oriented cafes around St. Botolph Street - so we need to start one for our own sanity and for profit.
10. Without thinking we can be all things to all people, we need a simple way of renting the space to outside groups. We currently have a system of \$5 per hour, and only being allowed to book two weeks before (because then our timetable is fairly accurate). I don't know what Dance Umbrella's needs are - but I suspect if they are bringing in outside groups for Friday and Saturday performances there will be unused time both in the theatres and rehearsal spaces.

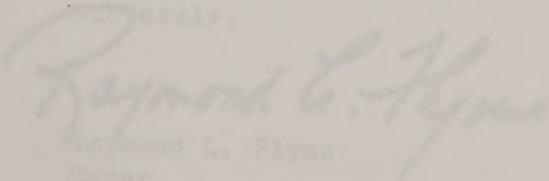
Mr. Joseph Macdonald
Board of Directors
Boston Shakespeare Theatre
10 St. Botolph Street
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Mr. Macdonald:

It is my understanding that the building at 10 St. Botolph Street which is owned by the Boston Shakespeare Theatre and currently leased by the Boston Shakespeare Theatre is for sale.

Boston has a very real shortage of theatre space for our resident theatre, dance and music companies.

In your deliberations regarding potential purchasers, I want you to be aware of my concern in retaining existing theatre space in our city. The cultural organizations which utilize these spaces make a very real contribution to the quality of life in our city, a contribution we cannot afford to lose.

Sincerely,

Raymond L. Flynn
Mayor

cc: Dennis Regal, Esq.



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
RAYMOND L. FLYNN

May 18, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director, Boston Redevelopment Authority
1 City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

22 July 1986

Mr. Joseph MacDonald
Board of Directors
Boston Musicians Union
56 St. Botolph Street
Boston, MA 02116

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

It is my understanding that the building at 56 St. Botolph Street which is owned by the Boston Musicians Union and currently leased by the Boston Shakespeare Company is for sale.

Boston has a very real shortage of theatre space for our resident theatre, dance and music companies.

In your deliberations regarding potential purchasers, I want you to be aware of my commitment to retaining existing theatre space in our city. The cultural organizations which utilize these spaces make a very real contribution to the quality of life in our city, a contribution we cannot afford to lose.

Sincerely,

Raymond L. Flynn
Raymond L. Flynn
Mayor

cc: Donald Segal, Esq.

Ryan
~~Stephen~~ Huggins

Back Day

X

BOSTON SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

2 St. Botolph Street Boston, Ma. 02116
617-267-5630

Solberg
McGinn
Prince

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
PLANNING
DEPT.
MAY 21 10 34 AM '87

May 18, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director, Boston Redevelopment Authority
1 City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle

I am delighted that you are enthusiastic about the purchase of the Boston Shakespeare Company building. Tom McIntyre suggests that perhaps there are a variety of yet unexplored paths to accomplish the saving the theatre on 52 St. Botolph Street. Could we talk about them?

After tonight, when Ourselves Alone shows for the last time, I will be done with my directing responsibilities for a while, so perhaps you and I could meet and talk about possible directions to take. There is, of course, real urgency in this - our lease expires June 30th and I am fearful, if we haven't made an offer to the Musicians' Union before that, the whole thing will fall apart. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Tina Packer
TP/rc

Tina Packer

Rat in the Skull runs until the end of May. It's strong stuff & I think you'd enjoy it - I'd be delighted to arrange tickets if you'd care to see it.

800521-035

5/ber9
Suite 4500
Prudential Center
Boston, Massachusetts
02199-4599

Back Bay

May 20, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle
The Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
One City Hall Square
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

May I ask that the Boston Redevelopment Authority do everything it appropriately can to help the Boston Shakespeare Company remain at its present location at 52 St. Botolph Street in Boston? They are, as you know, a wonderfully imaginative, active and artistic group, and it would be a great loss to have them turned out of their present location.

I don't profess to know all of the ins and outs of the uncertain future of the premises at 52 St. Botolph Street but merely would urge you to do what you can to keep the Boston Shakespeare Company there.

Sincerely,

Sam Bartlett

Samuel B. Bartlett

SBB:mc

cc: Ms. Rebecca Coopridner
Boston Shakespeare Company
52 St. Botolph Street
Boston, MA 02116

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF
ENGLISH AND AMERICAN
LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE

WARREN HOUSE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

(617) 495-2533/34

May 19, 1987

The Honorable Raymond L. Flynn
City Hall
City Hall Plaza
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mayor Flynn:

This morning I spoke with Rebecca Coopriders of the Boston Shakespeare Company, who outlined the crisis which is facing the company as a result of the expiring of their lease in June.

As I understand it, the City and State are in a position where they might purchase the premises and rent them to the Shakespeare Company--or, at any rate, come to their aid. I hope that this rescue operation can indeed be effected, and that you will do all in your power to keep the company in its premises, so that it may continue its admirable work. As you know, they are just completing a season of Irish plays, and have plans to keep the Celtic connection strong.

I know you will be well disposed towards their application.

Yours sincerely,

SHA

Seamus Heaney
Boylston Professor
of Rhetoric and Oratory

SH/ns

Box 231
Sudbury, Massachusetts 01776
June 4, 1987

Rebecca Coopridier
Boston Shakespeare Company
52 St. Botolph Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

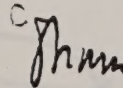
Dear Rebecca,

Thank you for your kind letter. I am happy that you think the two symposia in which I was involved went well. I too thought they — particularly the discussion of Rat — were successful. They seemed a natural extension of the energy, imagination and classy professionalism of the BSC festival. I am delighted that you drew me into this fine undertaking early on and enticed me to spend so many rewarding evenings watching these plays. At every level, beginning with our lively lunch at UMB, carrying through the choice and execution of texts, I was charmed and impressed by BSC.

By the way, I would like to visit The Mount when BSC is doing a Wharton play this summer. Would you send me a schedule?

The Boston Review piece will be out in August, I'm told.

Best regards,

Sincerely,


Shaun O'Connell



Boston City Council

James M. Kelly
District 2
725-3203

June 8, 1987

The Honorable Raymond Flynn
Mayor, City of Boston
Boston City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

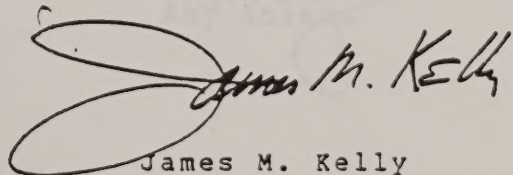
Dear Mayor Flynn;

On June 30th of this year a crisis situation may develop for the Boston Shakespeare Company - a crisis which may be averted by city action.

On the referred to date, the lease for the Shakespeare Company at 52 Botolph Street will expire. I understand previously, that your office expressed an interest in assisting the Shakespeare Company by purchasing the building, thus preserving its use for artistic expression.

I support the Shakespeare Company wholeheartedly and hope that your continued interest will save them from any unnecessary loss.

Sincerely,


James M. Kelly

uggins
handler
R...

see city newspaper

A

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
29 Carrut Street
Dorchester, Mass. 01912

JUN 22 10 53 AM '87

Stephen Coyle
Boston Redevelopment Authority
1 City Hall Square
Boston, Mass. 02201

June 19

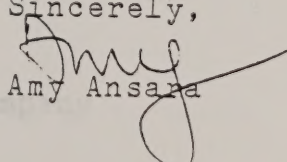
Dear Stephen,

Today's article in the Globe about a possible resolution for the Boston Shakespeare Company's search for a home was particularly encouraging and I would like to urge you to seek a solution that would allow that theatre company to continue to operate at the theatre on Saint Botolph Street. It's a beautiful theatre and very much suited to Tina Packer's commitment to produce the classics and new plays, and Tina herself has done an incredible job of trying to get rid of an enormous debt (incurred by preceding artistic directors), as well as putting on interesting work here and in Lenox. The Northern Ireland Play Festival, co-sponsored with New Voices, was a particularly adventuresome project, particularly for anyone interested in political issues and new plays. Boston Shakespeare Company has had many artistic directors over the years, but Tina Packer is by far the strongest. Just think what she could accomplish if she weren't burdened with worries and uncertainties about the future of her theatre company!

I read about you in the papers all the time, but I thought I might add that after doing all sorts of things for a long time, that I decided that playwriting was a most challenging thing to do and I have been working at it for the past few years. I guess I have those playwriting classes at Brandeis to thank for planting the seed!

So, do come up with a solution, soon. We'll all benefit from it.

Sincerely,


Amy Ansara

00000000

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JUL 10 10 36 AM '87

08 July 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

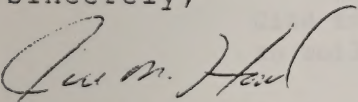
Digital Equipment Corporation has been a longtime contributor to the Boston Shakespeare Company. As such, we are delighted to hear that the Redevelopment Authority is considering the designation of a parcel of land at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and St. Botolph Street to the Boston Shakespeare Company.

For some time we have been advised of the uncertainty of the Company's future residency. The news of the proposed land acquisition is welcome indeed.

The Boston Shakespeare Company is an institution that provides continued quality and enhancement to the cultural life of Boston and beyond.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our support of this idea.

Sincerely,



Jane M. Hamel
Corporate Contributions Programs Manager

JMH/bjm

cc: Ms. Tina Packer - Boston Shakespeare Company

Huggins
Solberg

Back Bay / Shakespeare



BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JUL 9 3 22 PM '87

Arthur F. F. Snyder
Vice Chairman of the
Board of Directors

July 9, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director of Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston City Hall - 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Steve:

I understand that the Boston Redevelopment Authority is considering designating Parcel #6 to the Boston Shakespeare Company to build a theatre.

As a board member of the Boston Shakespeare Company, I support this action and feel that it holds the promise of a great artistic enterprise in Boston.

Glad to see things are going so well at the BRA. Marilyn continues to build and expand EDIC.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Arthur F. F. Snyder

AFFS:cb

870709-010

Boston University

University Professors Program
745 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02215
617/353-4020



BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JUL 10 10 36 AM '87

July 9, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director, BRA
City Hall
9th Floor
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle,

We usually meet on matters having to do with Ireland, but I write you today on something that relates to Ireland only indirectly.

Last spring I became well acquainted with the people at the Boston Shakespeare Company. They put on a series of plays about Ireland and Northern Ireland. I am impressed with their professionalism and dedication. As you may know the Shakespeare Company has lived a precarious financial existence for several years. I understand that the BRA is now contemplating the transfer to the Shakespeare Company of a parcel of land. I hope that this can come about, and I believe that anything that puts the Shakespeare Company on a sound footing will contribute to the cultural life of the city.

With every good wish.

Yours sincerely,

William V. Shannon

William V. Shannon

WVS:RV

JUL 10 10 35 AM '87

9 July, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle, Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, Mass 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

July 9, 1987

I understand that the BRA is considering giving a piece of land to the Boston Shakespeare Company to be developed into a theatre complex and commercial space designed to support the artistic creation which would reside in the development. It is referred to as

Stephen Coyle, Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
One City Hall Square
Boston, Massachusetts 02201

I am a television and (where I live by heart) in a working area in the Boston area for over 20 years. I belong to a very respected group called UNAM, and actor's collective including some of the best talent in the area.

Dear Stephen,

It is my understanding that some consideration is being given to the designation of the Boston Shakespeare Company as a developer of Parcel #6. The Boston Shakespeare Company provides the city and its people with an access to theatre of the highest standards -- something which buttresses Boston's claim to being a world class city. It would be a tragedy were its services to be lost because we are unable to ensure a physical location for its endeavors. Anything which facilitates its continuance in Boston is to be encouraged; anything which ensures its continuance is to be applauded. Its designation as a developer for Parcel #6 would ensure that it has the physical and economic base to continue its work, and prove that Boston's vision in cultural matters once again sets an example for the rest of the country.

The reason I find this opportunity here in Boston as opposed to other cities because I find the opportunity for a higher quality of life anywhere else I have lived. I hope that the Boston Shakespeare Company continues to produce theatrical events which palpably extend the quality of life in Boston to be uniquely Bostonian.

Sincerely,

Padraig

Padraig O'Malley

University
of Massachusetts
at Boston

POM:pwm

I hope the people will look back on the decision to create a home for the Boston Shakespeare Company as a pivotal moment in Boston's theatrical and cultural history. I hope we can all share that sense of reality.

Stephen M. Elman
Stephen M. Elman
Member--ACTORS UNAMING

Bo
Ma. usetts
02125-3393

617 929-7275

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JUL 10 11 05 AM '87

9 July, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle, Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, Mass 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle;

I understand that the BRA is considering giving a piece of land to the Boston Shakespeare Company to be developed into a theatre complex and commercial space designed to support the artistic creation which would reside in the development. It is referred to as Parcel #6, I beleive.

I am a working actor in film television and (where lives my heart) in the theatre. I have been working here in the Boston area for over a decade. I belong to a very respected group called ACTORS UNANIMOUS which is and actor's collective including some of the best talent in the area. I'm sure I speak for my colleagues in Au (indeed for all serious professional actors in New England) when I say that your endeavors to create this development for the Boston Shakespeare Company is in Boston's highest interests.

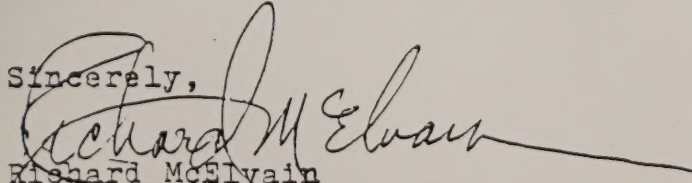
Throughout my years of working here in Boston, a major feature on the artistic landscape has always been the BSC--not only for actors but for spectators. Under its current leadership with Tina Packer as Artistic Director I feel the BSC is attempting some its most vital work.

The reason I choose to be based here in Boston as opposed to other cities because I find the opportunity for a higher quality of life than anywhere else I have lived. Ensuring that the Boston Shakespeare Company continues to produce quality theatrical events will palpably expand the quality of life we know to be uniquely Bostonian

Years from now people will look back on the decision to create a Home for the Boston Shakespeare Company as a pivotal moment in Boston's theatrical and cultural history.

I hope we can all make that home a reality.

Sincerely,


Richard McElvain

member--ACTORS UNANIMOUS

Baker's Plays

WALTER H. BAKER COMPANY PUBLISHERS AND AGENTS

100 Chauncy Street • Boston, Mass. 02111 • (617) 482-1280

July 9, 1987

The Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston MA

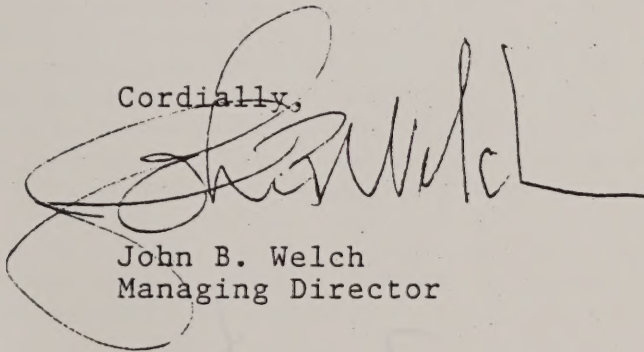
Re: Boston Shakespeare/Parcel Six

As you well know, Boston is a unique place to live; it's beautiful and livable. It's also a place where arts have flourished and will continue to flourish. We at Baker's Plays have been involved in the theatre arts since 1845 here in Boston, and we intend to stay--as should Boston Shakespeare!!

I do encourage you to help Boston Shakespeare find its home here in the City. A lively, exciting, intelligent, creative company in a permanent home means not only stability for Boston Shakespeare, but enriches the city as a whole.

Parcel Six and Boston Shakespeare seems a most appropriate marriage.

Cordially,



John B. Welch
Managing Director

JBW/sk

StageSource

New England's Theatre Resource Center

9 July 1987

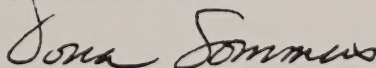
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA.

Boston is a great city with a strong cultural and artistic heritage, a haven for both the artists and the lovers of the arts, a place to live, and a place to work. The old and the new, the traditional and the modern, have been welcomed and have found homes in Boston.

StageSource, the Boston theatre resource center for the theatre arts, strongly urges you to continue this tradition by finding a permanent home for another Boston theatre resource, Boston Shakespeare Company.

Parcel Six, at the corner of St. Botolph Street and Massachusetts Avenue, is an ideal location, and would set Boston Shakespeare at the apex of a cultural/artistic triangle that also includes Symphony Hall and the Museum of Fine Arts.

A permanent home for the Boston Shakespeare Company would only add another jewel to Boston's crown as the Athens of the West.



Dona Sommers,
Executive Director
StageSource

DS:lab

P.O. Box 72 Essex Station Boston, MA 02112 (617) 423-2475

StageSource is a project of the professional theatre division of the New England Theatre Conference.



fenway community development corporation

p. o. box 127
astor station
boston, ma. 02123

(617) 267-4637

July 9, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

I am writing to express the support of the Fenway CDC for the proposal of the Boston Shakespeare Company to develop Parcel 6 of the Fenway Urban Renewal Area, located at St. Botolph Street and Massachusetts Ave. Our support is given with the understanding that the St. Botolph Street neighborhood organizations are also supportive of this development.

The parcel in question is overgrown with weeds and filled with litter at this time. A sensitive development can only improve the immediate area by eliminating a blighting condition. As this neighborhood is an important cultural center for the City of Boston a plan that enables an important cultural institution to remain here will be beneficial to both the City and the adjoining neighborhoods. Finally the development of Parcel 6 will bring more pedestrian activity to this part of Massachusetts Avenue and will thus make it a safer area, in particular for people who must walk from the new Orange line station to the Fenway in the evening.

I trust that there will be a full design review with sufficient notice to enable all interested parties to comment.

Yours truly,

Mathew Thall
Executive Director

7/10



CULTURAL ALLIANCE INC.
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02111 • (617) 357-5666

9 July 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle,

I am writing in strong support of the proposal to designate The Boston Shakespeare Company as co-developer of parcel 6.

NEW VOICES has benefited greatly over the years from the generous collaborative spirit of Tina Packer and BSC.

In fact much of our programming would not have been possible without it.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

Stanley Richardson
Stanley Richardson
Artistic Director

Mr. Coyle:

As the Executive Director of the Cultural Alliance, a cultural service organization statewide, I am writing to enthusiastically endorse the proposal to designate the Boston Shakespeare Company as co-developer of parcel 6.

This proposal would provide them with a permanent home, thus enabling them to continue to make a significant contribution to the cultural development of Boston.

Parcel 6 is a critical resource to the Boston Shakespeare Company, as they join the ranks of the 14 founding performers in Boston. The designation of Parcel 6 affords a clear response to this problem. A permanent facility will not only secure Boston Shakespeare's future, but will ensure the best way to continue its work as a cultural institution. It can also provide a performance facility for other groups who find themselves searching their way for work of adequate space. In short, it will serve the city and our artists in critical and fundamental ways.

We enthusiastically support this designation of Parcel 6 as the home of the Boston Shakespeare Company. It will be a very progressive step not only for the Boston Shakespeare Company, but for the entire cultural community as well.

Sincerely,

Libbie Shapiro
Libbie Shapiro
Executive Director

New Voices
A Writer's Theatre in Boston

Boston Center for the Arts
551 Tremont Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02116

617 357-5666



MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL ALLIANCE INC.
33 HARRISON AVENUE • BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02111 • (617) 423-0260

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
JUL 19 10 35 AM '87
JUL 10 10 35 AM '87

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Kelley & Wallwork Advertising, Inc.

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John Naaykens, Assistant Vice President
Winthrop Securities Company, Inc.

Tobey Oresman, President
Friends of the Alliance

Bruce Rossley, Commissioner
Office of Arts and Humanities
City of Boston

Barbara Schaffer Bacon, Director
Arts Extension Service
University of Massachusetts

Thaleia Schlesinger, Associate
Northeast Management and
Marketing Company

Patricia Tambone
Friends of the Alliance

Veloudos, Artistic Director
Public Theatre

Wheeler, President
Performing Arts Consultants

Executive Director
Libbie Shufro

July 9, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

As the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Cultural Alliance, a cultural service organization with 270 members statewide, I am writing to strongly and enthusiastically endorse the designation of Parcel 6 to the Boston Shakespeare Company. We understand that this proposal would provide them with a permanent home, thus enabling them to continue to make a significant contribution to the cultural environment of Boston.

Space is a critical concern to the Boston Shakespeare Company, as they join the ranks of the 56 homeless performance groups in Boston. The designation of Parcel 6 offers a clear response to this problem. A permanent facility will not only secure Boston Shakespeare's future, but will anchor the Back Bay/South End as a cultural satellite district. It can also provide a performance facility for other groups who find themselves curtailing their work for want of adequate space. In short, it will serve our city and our artists in critical and fundamental ways.

We wholeheartedly support this designation of Parcel 6 as the home of the Boston Shakespeare Company. It will be a very progressive step not only for the Boston Shakespeare Company, but for the entire cultural community as well.

Sincerely,

Libbie Shufro

Libbie Shufro
Executive Director

cc: Jim King
Bruce Rossley

ARTS BOSTON

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July 9, 1987

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
JUL 9 5 02 PM '87

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

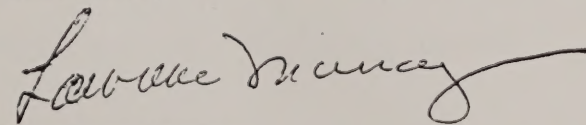
Dear Mr. Coyle:

ARTS/Boston and its 183 member cultural organizations would like to support the designation of Parcel Six to the Boston Shakespeare Company. We would also like to encourage you to consider pairing them with a minority (for-profit) developer if possible to reflect the unique makeup of the St. Botolph neighborhood.

The need for performance spaces in the city is great and we are sure that Boston Shakespeare will work in the best interests of all the performing arts to create a facility not only for themselves, but also for dance, music and other theatrical productions.

If I can be of any assistance in rallying support or solving problems (with the neighborhood, the arts organizations or the elected officials), do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

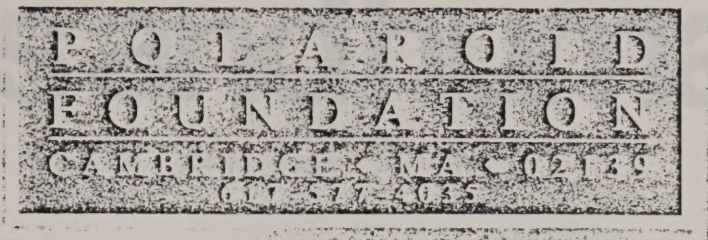


Lawrence Murray
Executive Director

LM:rk

Back Bay / Shakespeare

Huggins ✓
Iberg ✓



BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
JUL 14 10 17 AM '87

July 9, 1987

Stephen Coyle
Director

Mr. Stephen Coyle, Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

As a supporter of the Boston Shakespeare Company, we are delighted to hear that you are proposing to give them the piece of land on the corner of St. Botolph Street and Massachusetts Avenue. Their work in the schools and their performances of Shakespeare and new plays make them a valuable asset to Boston.

We endorse this proposal.

Sincerely,

Marcia Schiff
Executive Director

MS:dd

Sincerely,

George Hay
Executive Director

870714-013

arts and humanities

80 BOYLSTON STREET 10TH FLOOR BOSTON, MA 02116 617-727-3668

July 9, 1987

Stephen Coyle
Director
Boston Redevelopment Assoc.
Boston City Hall
Room #910
Boston, MA 02201

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
JUL 13 11 28 AM '87

Dear Stephen Coyle:

I would like to express our support of the designation of Parcel Six for the purpose of developing a multi-use performing arts facility.

As the Boston Shakespeare Company has been the cornerstone of the St. Botolph building you may wish to consider them as the primary residence company for this new site.

I know that you will make every effort to contribute to the arts community of Boston.

I look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely,

Anne Hawley
Anne Hawley,
Executive Director

Nicholas T. Zervas, Chairman
Anne Hawley, Executive Director

820713-023

Solberg
Huggins

Back Bay / Shakespeare

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JUL 13 11 28 AM '87



The Gillette Company
Prudential Tower Building
Boston, Massachusetts 02199-3799
(617) 421-7722

James P. Furlong
Manager of Civic Affairs

July 9, 1987

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Executive Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, Massachusetts 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

As a supporter of the Boston Shakespeare Company, we are pleased that the Boston Redevelopment Authority is considering giving the BSC designation to build on Parcel 6.

The Boston Shakespeare Company is a vital cultural asset in this area of the city and we strongly support keeping it here.

Sincerely,

JPF/ltr

c.c. Tina Packer

870713-021

Tuggrans
Solberg

WGBH

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
JUL 15 12 10 PM '87

**WGBH Educational
Foundation**
125 Western Avenue
Boston
Massachusetts 02134
617 492 2777
Telex 710 330 6887

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

July 9, 1987

Public Broadcasting

Dear Mr. Coyle:

Boston:
Channel 2
Channel 44
WGBH Radio
Springfield:
Channel 57

I am writing to support, with great enthusiasm, your intention to designate a parcel of land at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and St. Botolph Street as the future home of the Boston Shakespeare Company.

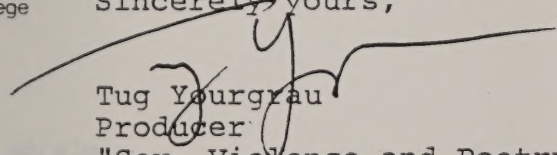
**Lowell Institute
Cooperative
Broadcasting
Council**

Boston College
Boston Symphony
Boston Opera
Boston University
Brandeis University
Harvard University
Lowell Institute
Massachusetts Institute
of Technology
Museum of Fine Arts
Museum of Science
New England
Conservatory of Music
Northeastern University
Simmons College
Suffolk University
Tufts University
University of
Massachusetts
Wellesley College

Some two years ago, I produced a half-hour documentary for WGBH about Tina Packer and her innovative methods of training actors to perform Shakespeare. In the process of making the film, I developed a great respect and admiration for Ms. Packer and her colleagues and saw first hand the great craftsmanship that they bring to bear on the acting profession. I was very impressed.

The Boston Shakespeare Company under Tina Packer is a significant cultural resource for Boston and Massachusetts, I believe. I look forward to the company having a real Boston home, at last.

Sincerely yours,



Tug Yaurgrau
Producer

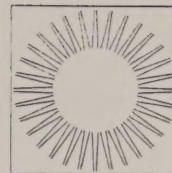
"Sex, Violence and Poetry: a portrait of Tina Packer"

870715-014

Solberg Huggins

Shelley Day / with respect

American Repertory Theatre



AND

Institute For Advanced Theatre Training

Robert Brustein,
Artistic Director

Robert J. Orchard
Managing Director

July 9, 1987

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
JUL 14 3 29 PM '87

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director, Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle,

I am aware that the B.R.A. is considering designating Parcel #6 to the Boston Shakespeare Company to build two new theatres on that site. I feel that this is a very important move in support of the Arts in Boston and I wholeheartedly support this designation.

I wish you all the best of luck with this new venture.

Sincerely,

Robert Brustein

RB/slm

cc: Tina Packer

870715-003



BANK OF BOSTON

Solberg ✓
Huggins

July 9, 1987

JUL 14 3 32 PM '87

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Mr. Steven Coyle
Director,
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

The Boston Shakespeare Company is a priceless asset to Boston and deserves all the support it can get. I urge you to consider the need for affordable and reliable performance spaces for them and other arts groups in Boston.

Bank of Boston has been proud to support the work of Boston Shakespeare Company. Tina Packer and her staff have worked diligently to bring order to the finances of the organization while maintaining artistic quality. I hope it will be possible for you to assist in this process.

Sincerely,

Judith Kidd
Coordinator,
Corporate Contributions

870715-002

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF BOSTON, Boston, Massachusetts 02106

President
1st Vice President
2nd Vice President
3rd Vice President
4th Vice President
Recording Secretary
Treasurer
Mid-Regional Vice President
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President Emeritus
President Emeritus
President Emeritus

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FREDERICK O'NEAL
THEODORE BIKEL

Professional Theatre

Actors' Equity Association

Founded in 1913

Executive Secretary
Executive Consultant
Counsel

ALAN EISENBERG
WILLARD SWIRE
COHN, GLICKSTEIN, & LURIE

BRANCH OF ASSOCIATED ACTORS
AND ARTISTES OF AMERICA

AFL-CIO

AFFILIATE OF FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE
DES ACTEURS

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ACTORS
(FIA)

165 WEST 46th STREET • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036 • TELEPHONE (212) 869-8530

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Solberg
Huggins

July 10, 1987

JUL 16 11 00 AM '87

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

This is in regard to your current planning. I understand that one option would include a theatre as part of the development of a parcel of land on Botolph Street. I further understand that this performance space is the prospective future home of the Boston Shakespeare Company.

We applaud your appreciation of the role that the performing arts, culture and entertainment have to play in the future of your city. A company like the BSC is a major asset. The benefits go beyond the most obvious. Their education and outreach programs are the most outstanding I've seen anywhere in the nation.

I know from my work in your city that space is at a premium. I know as a former resident that the quality of life is also premium and I hope that your continued foresight will preserve and enhance it. We feel that theatres are a necessary ingredient of any vital, vibrant city. We sincerely hope you will continue to include this one in your redevelopment plans.

Cordially yours,

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION

John Love
John Love
Business Representative

JL:lm
cc: Tina Packer

Councillor Emeritus

John
Rice

870716-011

Solberg ✓
Huggins

Black Box/Shakespeare

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JUL 14 4 26 PM '87

July 10, 1987

Stephen Coyle, Director
BRA
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Steve,

I was delighted to hear that
the BRA is preparing to designate
the parcel of land at the corner
of Man Ave and St Botolph to
the Boston Shakespeare Company.

The BSC is one of the
treasures of our city, and it speaks
very well of you, the BRA and
the city itself that a way has been
found to keep it here.
Good work!

Yours,

Ames Carroll

30 W Cedar St
Boston

820715-001

Huggins ✓
Solberg ✓

Boston Bay / Shakespeare

THE SHAKESPEARE ENSEMBLE

W20-423

MIT

Cambridge

Mass. 02139

(617) 253-2903

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JUL 14 10 17 AM '87

July 12th 1987.

Dear Mr. Coyle,

I am writing in support of the plan that is emerging to grant the Boston Shakespeare Company a piece of land on the corner of St. Botolph Street and Massachusetts Avenue for the construction of a theatre. From recent conversations with Tina Packer it is apparent that without this sort of commitment from the city Boston Shakespeare Company will almost certainly cease to exist. I am not alone in thinking that would be a tragic outcome to the present crisis.

As director of the Shakespeare Ensemble at M.I.T., I have been impressed with Ms. Packer's work with Shakespeare and Company in Lenox, and by her energy and dedicated enthusiasm to keep the Boston Shakespeare Company alive. With the right kind of backing and support I believe Tina Packer will make a unique contribution to the cultural life of this city in the years ahead. I hope the Boston Redevelopment Authority will act to ensure that she has a permanent home and an opportunity to fulfill that promise.

Yours sincerely,

Trak Campbell

Director.

870714-012

201 King
Huggins

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

JUL 13 11 29 AM '87

Mr. Stephen Coyle
Director of Boston Redevelopment Authority
Boston City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

Dear Mr. Coyle:

We understand you're thinking of designating Boston Shakespeare Company a plot of land on the corner of St. Botolph St. and Massachusetts Ave., for the purpose of building a theater.

We heartily endorse this plan, as a homeowner (22 Holyoke) and as a local performer.

Sincerely,

Carol & Gary Moss

Carol and Gary Moss

870713-022

BoShakes wins BRA support;

By Jeff McLaughlin
Globe Staff

Boston Redevelopment Authority director Stephen Coyle said yesterday that "the BRA stands fully behind the Boston Shakespeare Company, and by mid-week we expect to have worked out an arrangement that will keep it in its present location." Coyle's commitment, added to those of Boston Arts Commissioner Bruce Rossley and state administration and finance secretary Frank Keefe, apparently insures that Boston Shakespeare will not have to vacate its 52 St. Botolph St. home when its lease expires June 30, and markedly improves the chance that a permanent solution, likely a joint city-state purchase of the building, will be found. Coyle said he had scheduled a meeting for Monday for all parties to discuss the situation. He said he expects to present a plan to the BRA board on Thursday, "and I'm confident they'll be quite supportive."

"We have not yet found the exact solution," said Coyle, "but we have several workable alterna-

tives. The basic element in the immediate short-term is that we will make an offer to buy the building from the Musicians Union [which owns it and wants to sell] and back it up with a bona-fide cash deposit. The union lawyers have said that will be sufficient for them to allow Boston Shakespeare to stay for some months. I don't think we'll need that long to work out a permanent solution, but it solves the current crisis. The important thing is the BRA commitment."

Boston Shakespeare artistic director Tina Packer, after talking with Coyle, said she was "enormously relieved."

"We've eliminated our outstanding debt, forged partnerships with other arts groups like New Vokés and the Dance Umbrella and mounted a strong and well-received season of plays this spring," Packer said. "BoShakes offers the only 400-seat theater in the city, plus a workable 75-seat space. We're on the move. To have all that come to nought would be a crime. We want to launch a major fundraising campaign, and one

prospects brighten

obviously can't do that without a permanent home or with gypsy status."

Coyle said the BRA commitment to the arts community was a fundamental part of his current planning program. "The BRA doesn't see working with vital nonprofit arts groups as all that different from working out programs with nonprofit housing, employment and counseling groups. All contribute to the quality of life in the city, and community development from the BRA's standpoint - and it's a view more and more widely shared - definitely includes the cultural sector."

The Boston Shakespeare problem has a long history. When Packer was named to replace artistic director Peter Sellars three years ago (he resigned after one year's work, which was critically acclaimed but left the company more than \$100,000 in debt), she knew she had a lease that would expire relatively soon, but did not anticipate that Musicians Union Local 9-535 would decide to sell the property to benefit its pension fund. Boston Shakespeare, while in the black now - in large measure because of its merger with Packer's highly successful Shakespeare & Co. in Lenox last July - has been unable to raise the money to buy the Boston theater privately. It is valued in the \$2.3-\$3.2 million range by various potential buyers.

The union signed a purchase-and-sale agreement last year for over \$3 million with a real estate concern desirous of developing market-rate condominiums, but Rossley and Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn told the union the city would work strenuously to make sure the building remained a theater. That sale agreement is in abeyance and in litigation now.

Meanwhile, city and state officials have been working for seven months on a plan, analogous to that recently announced for the Opera House and Opera Company of Boston, to buy the building through the state's Convention

Shakes and the other registered users as prime tenants. The plan, which allocates \$3 million for purchase and \$3 million for renovation, is contingent on the city's contributing 30 percent of the total cost, \$1.8 million. The state, through Keefe, has said it would contribute its 70-percent share, \$4.2 million, but the city, although committed to Boston Shakespeare in principle, thus far has been unable to come up with a commitment of money.

"The City of Boston is in a very difficult position," said Rossley yesterday, "because we do not have the resources of the Commonwealth. But we are working closely with the BRA on a plan, and expect to be able to present it to the BRA board on Thursday. Unfortunately, this crisis is typical of the plight facing arts groups throughout our city. We value the Boston Shakespeare Company and are committed to keeping it and Tina Packer in Boston."

Coyle said in an interview, "There are three main options under consideration. First is an outright acquisition with state and city cash; second is using BRA-owned sites in the area as collateral for a bridge loan that covers the city's share - much as we did in the Opera House purchase [announced two weeks ago] - and that's also an acquisition at the bottom line; and third is working through developers, negotiating a height variation that would allow their adding, say, two floors, which puts enough premium into the package for a private deal to work out that would keep the theater in place. All are subject to an awful lot of community process, the last approach most of all, but we think we can work it out. A fourth option has surfaced in the arts community recently - building a new facility for Boston Shakespeare on land near the Boston Center for the Arts - but that would take years, and the company might well not survive. So the present location is our first

BoShakes Theater seeking city bailout

By Iris Fanger

IN AN 11th-hour gambit, the Boston Shakespeare Company has maneuvered a face-to-face meeting with Boston Redevelopment Authority director Stephen Coyle to convince the city to commit the \$1.8 million needed to purchase the building it rents on St. Botolph Street.

At 5 p.m. yesterday, a press release outlining the company's impending loss of its home base was sent to the media and city officials.

"On June 30, Boston will lose a valuable performing arts facility unless funding is found to cover the City of Boston's involvement in a proposed acquisition of the theater by the State and the City," the announcement read.

The Musicians' Union, which owns the building, intends to sell the structure when the theater company's lease runs out at the end of June.

"I've never seen anything move so fast," said Artistic Director Tina Packer last night. "Stephen Coyle called me personally, and he's never done that before. He says he is absolutely committed to keeping us in Boston. He will either keep us in this building or find us another space."

Packer said Coyle promised to meet with her Monday morning to discuss the crisis.

The theater, which also housed New Voices, Women in Theater, the Dance Umbrella, and most recently the musical "Nunsense," has been for sale since early last year.

During that time, talks have been held between the union, Boston Shakespeare, the

Mayor's Office of Arts and Humanities and the Mass Council on the Arts and Humanities, in an attempt to save the building as a theater.

The proposed solution was a \$6 million purchase and renovation project in which the state's Office of Administration and Finance has committed 70 percent of the funds under its Civic and Convention Center program, which requires the city to provide the remaining 30 percent. This is the same arrangement that was announced last month to save and renovate the Opera House on Washington Street.

The deadline for the Boston Shakespeare Company plan was April 15. Packer said her lawyers learned this week that The Musicians Union had two firm offers and could sell the building within 90 days.

In her announcement yesterday, Packer said, "There are three options left to us: 1) the City must commit approximately \$1.8 million; 2) a benefactor needs to be found in the private sector to donate the City's portion of the funds; or 3) another theater must be found. We believe our best hope lies with action by the City."

"The City of Boston is in a very difficult position because we do not have the financial resources of the Commonwealth," said Bruce Rossley, Commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Arts and Humanities.

"In spite of that fact, we are working very closely with Stephen Coyle and the BRA on a plan to keep BoShakes in Boston," he said. "We expect to take that plan to the BRA board on Thursday June 25."

Shakespeare 1988: To be or not to be?

By Constance Gortinkle
The Patriot Ledger

The Boston Shakespeare Theater will not be able to mount a full season until the fall of 1988, even if the Boston Redevelopment Authority is able to come up with a bail-out plan before the lease on the company's building expires June 30.

The reason, according to artistic director Tina Packer, is that so much work has to be done on the building at 52 St. Botolph St. in order for it to meet the requirements of the city's

building code.

"We've already had two architects look at it," she said yesterday in an interview. "All the asbestos has to be removed. Work has to be done on the boiler, and wheelchair access has to be created."

Packer said she hopes the assessment of what has to be done can be completed over the summer and that "we'll be able to start the work in September. But we have no idea how long it will take."

Packer said her intention was to "to do some readings and workshops

around the workmen — except, of course, when they're taking out the asbestos." But the earliest it will be possible to launch a full season will be September, 1988.

However, none of this will be possible if the BRA doesn't find a way to come up with the money it needs to purchase the building from its current owners, the musicians union. Under an arrangement with the state, the city will contribute \$1.8 million toward the purchase of the building. The legislature already has approved the state's contribution of \$4.2 million.

The union had agreed to hold off showing the building to prospective buyers for six months, when Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn and Bruce Rossley, head of the city's Office of

Arts and Humanities, said they would find a way to keep the theater.

Packer had thought "everything was proceeding in an orderly fashion until I realized the (April 15) deadline had come and gone and there was no movement from the city at all."

Now, with only 10 days left to save the theater, BRA director Stephen Coyle has agreed to meet with Packer Monday to discuss what their options are.

Those options, according to Coyle's assistant, Julie Solberg, include using BRA sites as collateral for a bank loan, and working with a developer who would put up the money in exchange for being allowed to add one or more income-producing floors to the building.

Whatever is decided at the Monday meeting, the proposal will be presented to the BRA board Thursday for approval.

The Boston Herald, Tuesday, June 23, 1987

The Boston Herald, Tuesday, June 23, 1987 33

Hub to help Shakespeare Company

By Iris Fanger

OFFICIALS from the Boston Redevelopment Authority, Boston Shakespeare Company and the Mayor's Office of Arts and Humanities met yesterday to review options to allow the company to remain at 52 St. Stephen St.

ARTS

The Boston Shakespeare Company is in danger of losing the space when the theater company's lease runs out June 30.

According to B.R.A. Executive Director Stephen Coyle, "We expect to give a progress report to the B.R.A. board at Thursday's meeting. We'd like to start with an extension of the rental period to give the company more time."

The Musician's Union, the

building's owner, is asking a purchase price in excess of \$3 million. The theater, which seats 400, is viewed as a prime resource for local, nonprofit arts groups.

Coyle said that other locales for the theater company have been mentioned, in addition to the current space, but he could

not give specifics.

Coyle said the B.R.A. had been brought into the situation within the last eight weeks, when attempts to raise private funds for the theater had failed.

"There's an awful lot of good will between the B.R.A. and the BoShakes. I'm optimistic. We still have eight days," he said.

Thursday June 25 1987
Patriot Ledger

Boston Shakespeare Co. given lease extension

By Constance Gorfinkle
The Patriot Ledger

The Boston Shakespeare Company has been given a one-month extension on the lease of its theater at 52 St. Botolph St.

The lease would have expired next Tuesday.

The extension is the result of 11th-hour negotiations between the Musicians Union, which owns the building, and the Boston Redevelopment Authority, which is trying to find a permanent home for the company.

The BRA's options are to buy the theater under an arrangement with the state or find another home for the company.

The BRA would contribute \$1.8 million toward purchase and renovation of the theater and the state would provide \$4.2 million. The Legislature has already approved the

state's contribution.

The Musicians Union announced its intention to sell the building, which houses the 400-seat theater, eight months ago. But when Boston Mayor Raymond Flynn and his Office of Arts and Humanities said they would find a way to keep the theater, the union agreed not to show the building to prospective buyers until April 15.

The company's artistic director, Tina Packer, said the lease extension gives the BRA more time to find the \$1.8 million it needs to buy the St. Botolph Street building or to make arrangements for the company to take over another site owned by the agency.

Packer said that BRA director Stephen Coyle "has a particular location in mind."

Coyle was scheduled to go before the BRA board today to present his recommendations.

BRA proposes permanent home for BoShakes

By Jeff McLaughlin
Globe Staff

The Boston Redevelopment Authority is working on a plan that would give Boston Shakespeare Company a new, permanent home a few blocks from its present, leased facility on St. Botolph

Street. The plan would give the nonprofit BoShakes and a commercial co-developer the right to build a new facility on the BRA's Parcel 6, a 23,000-square-foot site at 352-378 Massachusetts Avenue (at the northeast corner of St. Botolph St. and Massachusetts Avenue), next to the new MBTA Or-

ange Line station. The parcel is in the Fenway Urban Renewal Area.

While the proposal is still in its formative stages, and several critical elements have not yet been addressed — notably the question of where BoShakes would be housed during the two-year-or-more development and construction period — it is a concrete affirmation of BRA director Stephen Coyle's commitment to finding BoShakes a permanent home. On June 18, Coyle told the Globe, "We have not yet found the exact solution, but we have several workable solutions . . . The important thing is the BRA commitment."

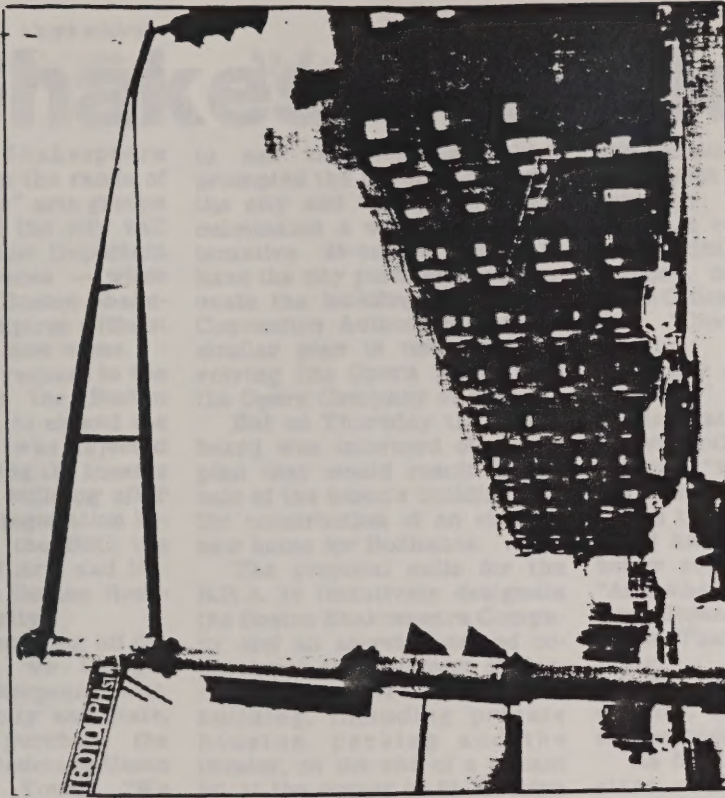
The company's lease at 52-56 St. Botolph St. expires on Tuesday, and while an extension to at least July 30 is under negotiation, the owner of the building, Muslims Local 9-535, wants to sell the building to benefit its pension fund. The highest offers — reportedly in excess of \$3 million — have come from real estate interests who want to develop market-rate residential condominiums. The neighborhood association would prefer such a conversion. But there is a critical shortage of performing spaces in the city — the main BoShakes theater is the only 400-seat theater available and has been home to the Dance Umbrella, New Voices and The Women in Theater Festival as well — and

Mayor Raymond Flynn and Arts Commissioner Bruce Rossley have expressed strong support for a solution that would keep Boston Shakespeare in Boston.

A joint state-city purchase of the St. Botolph St. building under the aegis of Convention Center Authority legislation had been in the works for seven months, but as the lease-expiration date approached, the city, despite its support in principle, had not found a way to come up with its \$1.8 million share of the projected \$6 million purchase-and-renovation project. An air of crisis developed about 10 days ago, and prompted Coyle to pledge BRA support for a permanent solution.

In a preliminary memorandum Coyle submitted to the BRA board Thursday, the plan for development of a new facility is described as meeting the needs of BoShakes and other theater groups, and the Dance Umbrella, the union and the neighborhood association. It would include two theaters, one in the 400-to-499-seat range, one of 99 or fewer seats. The stage requirements of dance groups would be an integral part of design. Office space for Boston Shakespeare would also be provided.

The key to financial feasibility for the project would be inclusion of market-rate housing and market-rate parking in the complex.



The corner of St. Botolph Street and Massachusetts Avenue. Globe staff photo/Barry Chan

No details were offered. The memorandum noted that BoShakes was assessing its needs and would report back to the BRA next week, and that the BRA would soon talk with the St. Botolph's Citizen Committee to gain its support.

The memorandum concluded, "Tentative designation of Boston

Shakespeare Company [as a co-developer of Parcel 6] has the added benefit of allowing the BSC to receive their current and potential grants and funding. The BSC could have a new permanent home on Parcel 6 in approximately two years. The proposed plan will be presented at the [BRA] board meeting scheduled for July 16, 1987."

BoShakes' homeless

THE BOSTON Shakespeare Company will join the ranks of other local "gypsy" arts groups tomorrow — and the city will lose one of its most important small theater spaces — when the lease on the Boston Shakespeare Theater expires without a solid plan for a new home.

A last-minute request to the building's owner, the Boston Musicians Union, to extend the company's lease was rejected Friday, thus forcing the theater troupe out of the building after eight months of negotiation between the union, the BSC, the Mayor's Office of Arts and Humanities and the Boston Redevelopment Authority.

"We held the building off the market because we thought that Boston Shakespeare, with the help of the city and state, was going to purchase the building," said Musicians Union president Steve Young. "We can't keep it off the market any longer. We're not being greedy, we just need the money."

The building is on the market for approximately \$3 million. The proceeds from its sale will go into the union's pension fund.

While the theater company's lease will have expired, union lawyer Lark Palermo pointed out that the union "is willing to let Shakespeare take the month of July to dismantle the theater. They're not going to be out on the street as of next week."

"But this is not a lease extension," she said. "This is really just permission to use and occupy the building for the month of July for a fee."

The BSC moved into the St. Botolph St. building in 1982, converting the building's gymnasium into a 400-seat theater upstairs and a 75-seat theater downstairs for new and experimental works. The theater has also been used by the Dance Umbrella, New Voices and other small companies, and most recently housed the eight-month run of the musical "Nunsense."

About a year ago the Musicians' Union indicated its desire

to sell the building, which prompted the negotiations with the city and the B.R.A. These culminated a week ago with a tentative \$6-million plan to have the city purchase and renovate the building using state Convention Authority funds. A similar plan is underway involving the Opera House and the Opera Company of Boston.

But on Thursday the B.R.A. board was informed of a new plan that would result in the sale of the union's building and the construction of an entirely new home for BoShakes.

The proposal calls for the B.R.A. to tentatively designate the Boston Shakespeare Company and an as-yet-unnamed co-developer as developers of Parcel 6, to create a mixed-use building, including private housing, parking and the theater, on the site of a vacant lot at the corner of St. Botolph Street and Massachusetts Ave.

"The housing created would finance (the cost of) the theater," said Julie Solberg, assistant to B.R.A. director Stephen Coyle.

Solberg estimates the project would take two to three years to complete. The proposal will go before the B.R.A. board officially on July 16.

In the meantime, the B.R.A. and the Mayor's Office of Arts

and Humanities are looking for an interim home for the theater company.

"I am very concerned about an interim home," said Bruce Rossley, commissioner of the city's Office of Arts and Humanities. "Obviously we're under the gun."

"There are several potential facilities," he added, declining to elaborate other than to say several colleges were being considered. "We should know by the middle of (this) week."

"In the long run, I think we could have the potential for a better solution," Rossley said. "And whether it's the best solution depends on the interim home. That's key to the whole thing."

(Tina Packer, BSC artistic director, could not be reached for comment.)

As for the fate of the Musicians' Union building, union president Steve Young says that the union has several interested buyers. "The building has not been aggressively marketed yet," he said. "But it will be."

"We're the ones who've lost on this," Young said bitterly. "We acted in good faith in keeping the building off the market all this time."

"This has been terribly frustrating," he added. "We were told all along that the B.R.A.

after talks fail

was going to buy the building. We were given the impression that the possibility of a sale looks positive. But apparently they reached the decision a while back not to buy it."

Noting the irony of a situation that pitted one needy arts group against another, Young

said that he sympathizes with the BSC's homeless plight.

"We had a new office lined up to rent in Brighton," he said, "but because it has taken so long for nothing to happen, we don't know if the building is still available."

Clock ticking down on BoShakes move

By Jack Malone

The Boston Shakespeare Company, which this week watched its lease run out on the St. Botolph Street Theater it occupies, continues to scramble to find a new home. If not successful, it will become a troupe in the truest sense.

The BSC, which has occupied the theater at 52 St. Botolph St. since 1982, was notified over a year ago that the owner of the building, the Boston Musicians Association Local 9-535, would be selling the 75-year-old structure.

Officials of the musicians union said that they had kept the property long enough and were forced to sell the building in hopes of shoring up the union's pension fund.

Although BSC had been notified it would have to vacate the space it had renovated into two theaters—one a 400-seat auditorium and another a 75-seat theater for new and experimental works—it will be doing so only after all possible solutions are exhausted.

At this point, several people have become involved in the plight of the BSC and are working to find a remedy to the eviction which the popular theater is facing.

City Councilor David Scondras has joined in the negotiations to find a home for the BSC. He said Thursday that the most agreeable solution would be for the group to remain in the building until another could be built for them down the street at the corner of Massachusetts Ave. and St. Botolph St.

He also indicated that he had called for a meeting with members of the BSC and representatives of the musi-

cians union next Wednesday but declined to say just what, if any, proposals would be discussed.

That site is controlled by the Boston Redevelopment Authority. Whether the BRA awards the site to the BSC for construction of a new facility will be discussed at the July 16 BRA board meeting.

"We are working to find any solution," Scondras said. He conceded there were only two approaches to the problem. "Basically, I want them to stay in the current space or find another space in the city."

The idea that the BSC should stay in the current location has been nixed by the musicians union, which says it is in a tough financial position. It must evict a comrade in the arts community in order to sell the building it can no longer support.

Musicians union President Steve Young said his group had kept the property off the market for long enough in the hope that BSC would be able to purchase the site.

The union has already relented and allowed the BSC to stay in the building for the month of July, according to artistic director Tina Packer. "We have a month's grace from the musicians union, but I don't know where we would go after that," she said from her group's summer home in Lenox.

However, she said she was still looking. She has already viewed the Opera House as a possible site, but that would only be available for one year because its owners have scheduled renovations in 1989. She also said that she would be looking at the Strand Theater in Dorchester in the next couple of days.

The idea of being awarded the BRA plot of land is one that Packer finds

exciting because it offers the possibility of constructing a new theater, something that has been a rare occurrence in Boston in recent decades. However, she is looking at that option cautiously. Having a new theater built is at least a three-year project and doesn't solve the immediate problem of being the theater company without a theater.

If the BSC were awarded the BRA's Parcel 6, it would still have to find a developer willing to be compensated in land rather than in cash. That option would give the developer about 12,000 square feet, slightly less than half of the 23,000 square feet parcel.

"It would have to be at no cost to ourselves," Packer said, regarding the construction of a new theater.

She admitted that a developer who would take part in such a plan has not yet been identified. "It's the plight of the smaller house," said Lawrence DiCara, president of the Theater District Association.

DiCara said he has been watching the BSC situation even though it is not located in the Theater District because, "It still is important to the arts community."

He said his group would welcome the BSC to the theater district, but BoShakes wants to remain near where they have been for the last five years.

DiCara also noted there was not a facility in the Theater District that could accommodate the BSC's unique theatrical needs.

"We could work in a conventional theater, but it is just not as exciting," said Packer of that potential option.

She did add that she couldn't help believe that everything would work out. "I'm frightened but optimistic," she said.



Tina Packer: Optimistic.

ArtsBoston executive director Larry Murray has also been following the situation. "The real key is to find a way to get the musicians union to allow the Boston Shakespeare Company to stay for one or two years until the St. Botolph site is built," he claimed.

Murray noted that the community was concerned about the future use of the existing theater, and said there was also an alliance forming, made up of people who would be interested in the building of a new theater because of the possibility of such a facility not only housing the BSC, but other community groups as well.

Bruce Rossley, head of the city's Arts and Humanities Office, is in the process of planning small and moderate-sized theatres, of which there is a glaring shortage in Boston. Such a theatre for BoShakes would help alleviate that shortage.

REDEVELOPER'S STATEMENT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE¹

A. REDEVELOPER AND LAND

1. a. Name of Redeveloper: Boston Shakespeare Company
- b. Address and ZIP Code of Redeveloper: 52 St. Botolph Street
Boston, MA 02116
- c. IRS Number of Redeveloper: 04 257 4895
2. The land on which the Redeveloper proposes to enter into a contract for, or understanding with respect to the purchase or lease of land from

Boston Redevelopment Authority
(Name of Local Public Agency)

is Fenway Urban Renewal Area - Parcel G
(Name of Urban Renewal or Redevelopment Project Area)

is in the City of Boston, State of MA.
is described as follows²

Land located at the northeast corner of
Massachusetts Ave. and St. Botolph Street,
containing approximately 21,500 square feet
of vacant land adjacent to the new MBTA
Orange Line Station at Massachusetts Ave.

3. If the Redeveloper is not an individual doing business under his own name, the Redeveloper has the indicated below and is organized or operating under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

- ☐ A corporation.
- ☒ A nonprofit or charitable institution or corporation.
- ☐ A partnership known as
- ☐ A business association or a joint venture known as
- ☐ A Federal, State, or local government or instrumentality thereof.
- ☐ Other (explain)

4. If the Redeveloper is not an individual or a government agency or instrumentality, give date of organization: 8/5/75
5. Names, addresses, title of position (if any), and nature and extent of the interest of the officers and principal members, shareholders, and investors of the Redeveloper, other than a government agency or instrumentality, are set forth follows: N/A

¹ If space on this form is inadequate for any requested information, it should be furnished on an attached page which is referred to under the appropriate numbered item on the form.

² Any convenient means of identifying the land (such as block and lot numbers or street boundaries) is sufficient. A description by metes and bounds or other technical description is acceptable, but not required.

6. If the Redeveloper is a corporation, give its name, and state whether it owns more than 10% of any class of stock?
7. If the Redeveloper is a nonprofit or charitable institution or corporation, the members who constitute its board of trustees or board of directors or similar governing body.
8. If the Redeveloper is a partnership, each partner, whether a general or limited partner, and state the person or persons of interest or a description of the character and extent of interest.
9. If the Redeveloper is a business association or a joint venture, each participant and state the person or persons of interest or a description of the character and extent of interest.
10. If the Redeveloper is some other entity, the officers, the members of the governing body, and each person having an interest of more than 10%.

NAME, ADDRESS, AND PERCENT OF INTEREST

PERCENT OF INTEREST (If any) AND PERCENT OF INTEREST IN CHARACTER OF CHARACTER AND EXTENT OF INTEREST

11. Name, address, and nature and extent of interest of each person or entity (each named in response to item 6) who has a beneficial interest in any of the shareholders or investors named in response to item 6 which gives such person or entity more than a computed 10% interest in the Redeveloper (for example, where the 10% of the stock is a corporation which holds 10% of the stock of the Redeveloper, or more than 10% of stock in a corporation which holds 10% of the stock of the Redeveloper).

NAME, ADDRESS, AND PERCENT OF INTEREST

PERCENT OF INTEREST (If any) AND PERCENT OF INTEREST IN CHARACTER OF CHARACTER AND EXTENT OF INTEREST

12. Name (If not given above) of officers and directors or trustees of any corporation or firm named above item 6 or item 8 above.

NAME, ADDRESS, AND PERCENT OF INTEREST

8. RESIDENTIAL REDEVELOPMENT OR REHABILITATION

(The Redeveloper is to furnish the following information, but only if land is to be redeveloped or rehabilitated in whole or in part for residential purposes.)

1. If a corporation is required to file periodic reports with the Federal Securities and Exchange Commission under Section 13 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or more often than item 1, in such case, the information referred to in this item and in items 2 and 3 is not required to be furnished.

- a. If the Redeveloper is a corporation, the officers, directors or trustees, and each stockholder owning more than 10% of any class of stock¹
- b. If the Redeveloper is a nonprofit or charitable institution or corporation, the members who constitute its board of trustees or board of directors or similar governing body.
see attachment
- c. If the Redeveloper is a partnership, each partner, whether a general or limited partner, and either the percent of interest or a description of the character and extent of interest.
NA
- d. If the Redeveloper is a business association or a joint venture, each participant and either the percent of interest or a description of the character and extent of interest.
NA
- e. If the Redeveloper is some other entity, the officers, the members of the governing body, and each partner having an interest of more than 10%.

NAME, ADDRESS, AND ZIP CODE

POSITION TITLE (if any) AND PERCENT OF INTEREST OR DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTER AND EXTENT OF INTEREST

6. Name, address, and nature and extent of interest of each person or entity (not named in response to Item 5) who has a beneficial interest in any of the shareholders or investors named in response to Item 5 which gives such person or entity more than a computed 10% interest in the Redeveloper (for example, more than 20% of the stock in a corporation which holds 50% of the stock of the Redeveloper; or more than 50% of the stock in a corporation which holds 20% of the stock of the Redeveloper):

NAME, ADDRESS, AND ZIP CODE

DESCRIPTION OF CHARACTER AND EXTENT OF INTEREST

NA

7. Names (if not given above) of officers and directors or trustees of any corporation or firm listed under Item 5 or Item 6 above:

see attachment

B. RESIDENTIAL REDEVELOPMENT OR REHABILITATION

(The Redeveloper is to furnish the following information, but only if land is to be redeveloped or rehabilitated in whole or in part for residential purposes.)

¹ If a corporation is required to file periodic reports with the Federal Securities and Exchange Commission under Section 1 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, so state under this Item 5. In such case, the information referred to in this Item and in Items 6 and 7 is not required to be furnished.

1. State the Redeveloper's estimates, exclusive of payment for the land, for:

- a. Total cost of any residential redevelopment. \$10 million
- b. Cost per dwelling unit of any residential redevelopment. \$166,000
- c. Total cost of any residential rehabilitation \$ NA
- d. Cost per dwelling unit of any residential rehabilitation \$ NA

2. a. State the Redeveloper's estimate of the average monthly rental (if to be rented) or average sale price (if to be sold) for each type and size of dwelling unit involved in such redevelopment or rehabilitation:

TYPE AND SIZE OF DWELLING UNIT	ESTIMATED AVERAGE MONTHLY RENTAL	ESTIMATED AVERAGE SALE PRICE
1000 SF single + double bedroom apartments	\$225,000 - 275,000 →	

b. State the utilities and parking facilities, if any, included in the foregoing estimates of rentals:

NA

c. State equipment, such as refrigerators, washing machines, air conditioners, if any, included in the foregoing estimates of sales prices:

Refrigerator

stove

Air conditioning

CERTIFICATION

I, Michael Belknap - chairman of the Board of Boston Redevelopment Authority, certify that this Redeveloper's Statement for Public Disclosure is true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge and belief.²

Dated: July 10, 1987

Dated: _____

[Signature]
Signature

Signature

Chairman of Board
Title

Title

Warren Crossing Road
Corson, New York 12029
Address and ZIP Code

Address and ZIP Code

¹ If the Redeveloper is an individual, this statement should be signed by such individual; if a partnership, by one of the partners; if a corporation or other entity, by one of its chief officers having knowledge of the facts required by this statement.
² Penalty for False Certification: Section 1001, Title 18, of the U.S. Code, provides a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment of not more than five years, or both, for knowingly and willfully making or using any false writing or document, in the name to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry in a matter within the jurisdiction of any Department of the United States.

REDEVELOPER'S STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS AND FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

(For Confidential Official Use of the Local Public Agency and the Department of Housing and Urban Development. Do Not Transmit to HUD Unless Requested or Item 8b is Answered "Yes.")

1. a. Name of Redeveloper: Boston Shakespeare Company
- b. Address and ZIP Code of Redeveloper: 52 St. Botolph Street
Boston, MA 02116
2. The land on which the Redeveloper proposes to enter into a contract for, or understanding with respect to the purchase or lease of land from

Boston Redevelopment Authority
(Name of Local Public Agency)

in Fenway Urban Renewal
(Name of Urban Renewal or Redevelopment Project Area)

is in the City of Boston, State of Massachusetts
is described as follows: Land located at the northeast corner of Massachusetts Ave and St. Botolph Street, containing approximately 21,500 square feet of vacant land adjacent to the new MBTA Orange Line station at Massachusetts Avenue.

3. Is the Redeveloper a subsidiary of or affiliated with any other corporation or corporations or any other firm or firms? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If Yes, list each such corporation or firm by name and address, specify its relationship to the Redeveloper and identify the officers and directors or trustees common to the Redeveloper and such other corporation or firm. SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

The Mount

Boston Shakespeare Company

is effectively a subsidiary of Shakespeare Company, since Shakespeare Company's Trustees are the members of Boston Shakespeare.

4. a. The financial condition of the Redeveloper, as of JUNE 30, 1986 is as reflected in the attached financial statement.

(NOTE: Attach to this statement a certified financial statement showing the assets and the liabilities including contingent liabilities, fully itemized in accordance with accepted accounting standards and based on a proper audit. If the date of the certified financial statement precedes the date of this submission by more than six months, also attach an interim balance sheet not more than 60 days old.)

No interim financials are available. June 30 1987 to be provided.

- b. Name and address of auditor or public accountant who performed the audit on which said financial statement is based: Ron Goldstein - Green, Goldstein, Green + Berger

181 Wells Ave
Newton, MA 02159 965-7610

5. If funds for the development of the land are to be obtained from sources other than the Redeveloper's own funds, a statement of the Redeveloper's plan for financing the acquisition and development of the land:

Co-development in accordance with BRA guidelines and conditions. Co-developer will provide disclosure more definitively describing the finance plan at the time of tentative designation.

6. Sources and amount of cash available to Redeveloper to meet equity requirements of the proposed undertaking:

see #5 (above)

a. In banks:

NAME, ADDRESS, AND ZIP CODE OF BANK

AMOUNT

\$

b. By loans from affiliated or associated corporations or firms:

NAME, ADDRESS, AND ZIP CODE OF SOURCE

AMOUNT

\$

c. By sale of readily salable assets:

DESCRIPTION

MARKET VALUE

MORTGAGES OR LIENS

\$

\$

7. Names and addresses of bank references:

8. a. Has the Redeveloper or (if any) the parent corporation, or any subsidiary or affiliated corporation of the Redeveloper or said parent corporation, or any of the Redeveloper's officers or principal members, shareholders or investors, or other interested parties (as listed in the responses to Items 5, 6, and 7 of the Redeveloper's Statement for Public Disclosure and referred to herein as "principals of the Redeveloper" been adjudged bankrupt, either voluntary or involuntary, within the past 10 years? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If Yes, give date, place, and under what name.

b. Has the Redeveloper or anyone referred to above as "principals of the Redeveloper" been indicted for or convicted of any felony within the past 10 years? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If Yes, give for each case (1) date, (2) charge, (3) place, (4) Court, and (5) action taken. Attach any explanation deemed necessary. _____

9. a. Undertakings, comparable to the proposed redevelopment work, which have been completed by the Redeveloper or any of the principals of the Redeveloper, including identification and brief description of each project and date of completion:

NA

- b. If the Redeveloper or any of the principals of the Redeveloper has ever been an employee, in a supervisory capacity, for construction contractor or builder on undertakings comparable to the proposed redevelopment work, name of such employee, name and address of employer, title of position, and brief description of work:

NA

10. Other federally aided urban renewal projects under Title I of the Housing Act of 1949, as amended, in which the Redeveloper or any of the principals of the Redeveloper is or has been the redeveloper, or a stockholder, officer, director or trustee, or partner of such a redeveloper:

NA

11. If the Redeveloper or a parent corporation, a subsidiary, an affiliate, or a principal of the Redeveloper is participate in the development of the land as a construction contractor or builder:

NA

- a. Name and address of such contractor or builder:

- b. Has such contractor or builder within the last 10 years ever failed to qualify as a responsible bidder, refused to enter into a contract after an award has been made, or failed to complete a construction or development contract? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If Yes, explain:

NA

- c. Total amount of construction or development work performed by such contractor or builder during the last three years: \$ _____.

General description of such work:

NA

- d. Construction contracts or developments now being performed by such contractor or builder:

NA

IDENTIFICATION OF CONTRACT OR DEVELOPMENT

LOCATION

AMOUNT
\$

DATE TO BE COMPLETED

a. Outstanding construction-contract bids of such contractor or builder: NA

AWARDING AGENCY

AMOUNT
\$

DATE OPENED

HUD-46
(9-

12. Brief statement respecting equipment, experience, financial capacity, and other resources available to such contractor or builder for the performance of the work involved in the redevelopment of the land, specifying particularly the qualifications of the personnel, the nature of the equipment, and the general experience of the contractor:

13. a. Does any member of the governing body of the Local Public Agency to which the accompanying bid or proposal is being made or any officer or employee of the Local Public Agency who exercises any functions or responsibilities in connection with the carrying out of the project under which the land covered by the Redeveloper's proposal is being made available, have any direct or indirect personal interest in the Redeveloper or in the redevelopment or rehabilitation of the property upon the basis of such proposal? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If Yes, explain.

- b. Does any member of the governing body of the locality in which the Urban Renewal Area is situated or any other public official of the locality, who exercises any functions or responsibilities in the review approval of the carrying out of the project under which the land covered by the Redeveloper's proposal is being made available, have any direct or indirect personal interest in the Redeveloper or in the redevelopment or rehabilitation of the property upon the basis of such proposal? ☐ YES ☒ NO

If Yes, explain.

14. Statements and other evidence of the Redeveloper's qualifications and financial responsibility (other than the financial statement referred to in Item 4a) are attached hereto and hereby made a part hereof as follow

CERTIFICATION

I, Michael Belknap, Chairman of the Board of Boston Shakespeare Co. certify that this Redeveloper's Statement of Qualifications and Financial Responsibility and the attached evidence of the Redeveloper's qualifications and financial responsibility, including financial statements, are true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge and belief.²

Dated: July 10, 1987

Dated: _____

Michael Belknap
Signature

Signature

Chairman of the Board

Title

Warner Cowing Road
Croton, New York 12029

Address and ZIP Code

Address and ZIP Code

- ¹ If the Redeveloper is a corporation, this statement should be signed by the President and Secretary of the corporation; if individual, by such individual; if a partnership, by one of the partners; if an entity not having a president and secretary, one of its chief officers having knowledge of the financial status and qualifications of the Redeveloper..
- ² Penalty for False Certification: Section 1001, Title 18, of the U.S. Code, provides a fine of not more than \$10,000 or imprisonment of not more than five years, or both, for knowingly and willfully making or using any false writing or document, knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious or fraudulent statement or entry in a matter within the jurisdiction of any Department

Whitney
Solberg

Back Bay / Shakespeare

.....
WOMEN IN THEATRE
FESTIVAL
.....

BOSTON REDEVELOPMENT
AUTHORITY
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
Aug 9 9 25 PM '87

Stephan Coyle
Director
Boston Redevelopment Authority
City Hall
Boston, MA 02201

8/5/87

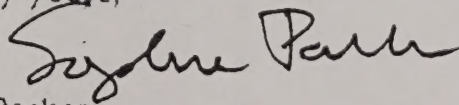
Dear Mr. Coyle,

I am writing to you in support of the designation of the Boston Shakespeare Company as the co-developer on parcel 6. Tina Packer has worked with the Women in Theatre Festival for the last three years helping us develop and plan our program. We are looking forward to sharing space with the Boston Shakespeare Company as a continuation of our successful artistic collaboration.

We welcome the chance to work with BoShakes and New Voices as we feel both these companies share our serious commitment to the development of good theatre in the Boston area.

If there is any further way we can express our support of Tina's leadership in the project, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,



Sophie Parker
Festival Director
Women in Theatre Festival

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